

## **Support for the National Coordination on Adaptation and Resilience for Security (NCARS) Act**

“The increasing frequency, severity, and cost of weather-related events—including floods, drought, and wildfires—cannot be ignored. The National Coordination on Adaptation and Resilience for Security Act, led by Sens. Chris Coons (D-DE) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), would take substantive steps to help communities become more resilient to such disasters. By aligning federal agencies and actions, this legislation would enhance federal support for local and state governments, saving taxpayer dollars and facilitating proactive preparedness for extreme weather events.” – **Marcia Argust, Director, U.S. Conservation, The Pew Charitable Trusts.**

"Taxpayers for Common Sense supports the National Coordination on Adaptation and Resilience for Security Act of 2023 because it provides a strategic and organized response to the threat of increasingly destructive natural disasters. By establishing a Chief Resilience Officer and a Partners Council, the bill seeks to provide a coordinated response to the complex challenges that arise from environmental vulnerabilities. This is exactly the type of forward-thinking, fiscally responsible planning we need." – **Steve Ellis, President, Taxpayers for Common Sense.**

"Helping local communities and businesses incorporate adaptation and resilience into their planning and asset management is smart public policy. Not only will it help ensure we are prepared for tomorrow's potential disasters, we know money spent on predisaster mitigation today will provide a huge return on investment for taxpayers and the public. We commend Senators Coons and Murkowski and Representatives Salazar and Peters for their leadership in introducing the National Coordination and Resilience for Security Act. By providing a national resilience strategy, better coordination among federal agencies, and a Chief Resilience Officer in the White House, enacting NCARS would help us build smart, modern, and resilient infrastructure and enable businesses of all sizes to be more operationally resilient during disruptions." – **Marty Durbin, Senior Vice President for Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce.**

"Team Rubicon is committed to supporting programs that prioritize the most vulnerable communities affected by a changing climate, ensuring their voices are heard in the emergency response framework. We recognize that each disaster is unique, and the experiences of impacted

communities vary. As disasters become more frequent, severe, and costly, it strains both federal government and community resources. To effectively address these challenges, it's crucial to include diverse stakeholders who can facilitate adaptation—an adjustment in response to changing environmental conditions, including those associated with climate change. In addition to these efforts, Team Rubicon strongly supports the appointment of a dedicated resilience officer. This officer would play a vital role in further preparing vulnerable communities to cope with the increased frequency and intensity of disasters. We commend Senators Coons and Murkowski for their legislation, which not only promotes a holistic government approach to resilience but also mandates the involvement of partners from the public-private sector, enabling them to contribute their expertise in adaptation. Together, with the inclusion of a dedicated resilience officer, we can collectively tackle the most urgent challenge of our time – building resilience in the face of increasing disasters and adapting to the changing environmental conditions brought about by climate change." – **Art delaCruz, CEO, Team Rubicon.**

"With rising temperatures, prolonged drought and wildfire seasons, and more intense storms threatening communities across the U.S., we must do even more to prepare for extreme weather," **said Environmental Defense Fund senior vice president for political affairs Elizabeth Gore.**

"This record-setting summer highlighted glaring gaps in readiness, especially in the most economically and socially vulnerable places. To help address these risks, Sens. Coons and Murkowski are putting forward the right framework to prepare communities. The bipartisan National Coordination on Adaptation and Resilience for Security Act takes a comprehensive, whole-of-government approach to understand and address climate risks with valuable input from states, local governments, tribes, NGOs, businesses and other stakeholders."

"The Nature Conservancy welcomes and appreciates the leadership of Senators Coons and Murkowski and Representatives Peters and Salazar for supporting a whole-of-government approach to climate resilience. This bipartisan, bicameral legislation will not only enhance coordination between federal agencies and other bodies of government but will also meaningfully involve and pay special attention to the most vulnerable communities that often have few resources to address these daunting challenges. We applaud the bill's emphasis both on natural climate solutions and elevating the status of resilience and adaptation in the federal response to climate change. We look forward to working with the sponsors to advance this urgent and necessary proposal." – **Kameron Onley, Managing Director, TNC North America Policy and Government Relations.**

"In 2022, the non-partisan Climate Security Advisory Group, which includes 8 retired 4-star generals and admirals, a former Director of National Intelligence, a former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, a former NASA Administrator, and many other retired military officers, published Challenge Accepted, a review of climate security progress and recommendations on the way ahead," said Erin Sikorsky, Director of the Center for Climate Security, " This group recommended ensuring federal activities and investments contribute to a more resilient United States through the creation of a National Adaptation Plan, which is one of the key provisions in this legislation." – **Erin Sikorsky, Director, Center for Climate & Security at The Council on Strategic Risks.**

"While mutual insurance companies will always be dedicated to assisting policyholders in the aftermath of natural disasters, increasing resiliency and improving mitigation on the front end is a message we continue to advocate to Capitol Hill as it is the most prudent way to minimize the impacts of severe weather events. NAMIC is a longtime champion of mitigation policy in Washington and is proud to support the National Coordination on Adaptation and Resilience for Security Act of 2023 as a key step in furthering such efforts. Establishing a clear plan for federal resiliency efforts, under a dedicated Chief Resilience Officer, will create a more focused and effective strategy on a national scale that will serve to improve the built environment of our communities across the country, and more importantly save lives." – **Jimi Grande, Senior Vice President of Federal & Political Affairs, National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC).**

"The rapid increase in natural disasters in recent years has shed light on our nation's lack of a comprehensive policy framework to address the climate change crisis and its devastating implications," **said Chris Brown, Executive Director of the SmarterSafer Coalition.** "Instead of our current approach that emphasizes and funds responses to disasters after they strike, the federal government must enact a robust national strategy that promotes a whole-of-government approach to pre-disaster resilience and mitigation. The National Coordination on Adaptation and Resilience for Security Act does just that. The SmarterSafer Coalition applauds Senators Coons and Murkowski for leading the fight to ensure our communities have the resources to build resilience to our changing climate."

"Communities across the country rely on the federal government to prepare for and recover from stronger storms and more frequent flooding. The American Flood Coalition Action applauds the

bipartisan sponsors of the National Coordination on Adaptation and Resilience for Security Act for championing the creation of a coordinated federal strategy with dedicated leadership. This legislation will ensure the federal government develops and implements a cross-agency plan for adaptation and resilience to help communities receive the resources and leadership they need to better protect themselves.” – **Melissa Roberts, Executive Director, American Flood Coalition Action.**

“Members of the American Society of Adaptation Professionals (ASAP) applaud the introduction of National Coordination on Adaptation and Resilience for Security Act (NCARS). Should Congress enact this legislation, the U.S. will move from reliance on executive action directed toward individual agency interventions to a stable, long-term, coherent national strategy that will ensure climate change preparedness. NCARS is particularly promising because: 1) it builds on existing national and sub-national adaptation and resilience efforts, and 2) the legislation itself is adaptive. ASAP wishes to call particular attention to the bill’s requirement to develop a national adaptation strategy but to also create implementation planning, monitoring and evaluation guardrails to ensure that justice and equity remain at the center of national action, together with adequate Congressional appropriations. Congress must pass this bill in order to achieve critical progress forward to prepare the United States for the impacts of climate change.” – **Executive Director, Dr. Debra Butler.**